



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 6150

Ingo GASSER : Docket No. 20010-1252A

Serial No. 09/936,518 : Group Art Unit 3637

Filed November 15, 2001 : Examiner H.V. TRAN

PULL-OUT GUIDE FITTINGS
FOR DRAWERS

RECEIVED

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GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

Abstracts of the non English publications

Austrian Utility Patent AT 002 276 U1 (Grass Mobelbeschlage Grass GmbH):
The Utility Model shows an oil damper with a cylinder 1 and piston 3 which is linearly disposable within cylinder 1. This damper is to be used with moveable furniture parts but no pull-out guide is shown.

German Utility Patent G 9411 701 U1 (Julius Blum Gesellschaft m.b.H.):

This specification shows a pull-out guide assembly for drawers but no damping means are provided.

German Utility Patent DE 296 16 054 U1 (Ninkoplast GmbH):

This patent shows a drawer with an air damper 38 comprising a cylinder 40 and a piston 44. The air damper 38 is mounted within the side walls of a drawer. When the drawer 10 is closed, the piston 44 abuts a plate 48 mounted on the rear wall of the piece of furniture. A pull-out guide assembly is shown.

German Utility Patent DE 296 21 957 U1 (Julius Blum Gesellschaft m.b.H.):

This utility patent shows a pull-out guide assembly comprising a support rail 7 and an intermediate rail 8 and a pull-out rail 9. Coupling means 15 are provided for coupling the intermediate rail with the pull-out rail. No damping means are provided.

German Utility Patent DE 299 16 841 U1 (Hüllsta-Werke Hills GmbH & Co KG):

This Utility Patent shows a pull-out guide assembly for a drawer. Drawers comprising a support rail 2 to be mounted on the side wall of a piece of furniture and a pull-out rail 3 to be mounted on the drawer. A rotary damper 5 is mounted on the support rail 2. The rotary damper 5 is provided with a pinion 7 which meshes with a rack 8 which is mounted on the pull-out rail 3. A pull-in mechanism

for pulling the drawer into its rear most position when the drawer is closed is mentioned in the specification but not described nor shown in the drawings.

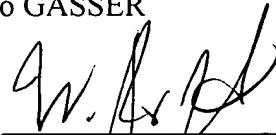
5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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